GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1218
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2016
Preservation of Old Rituals
Roy Prof. Saugata

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the large number of rituals being practiced by the scheduled tribes/ tribals across the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken by the Government for protection and preservation of these rituals?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI JUAL ORAM)

(a) & (b): The culture of tribal population is characterized by a number of rituals akin to their traditional way of life. There is an apparent distinctiveness of tribal culture, habit and languages. The data on rituals practiced by tribals are not being maintained centrally or such information collected under any programmatic intervention specifically by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

The Ministry is implementing the scheme of "Grant-in-Aid to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)" to extend financial assistance to strengthen the TRIs in the areas of research & documentation of tangible and intangible heritage and training & capacity building etc. The TRIs have also been funded for documentation of oral traditions and traditional knowledge. Besides, the documentation of Tribal Medicine and Medicinal practices have also been supported. The Ministry has also recognized Bhasha Research and Publication Centre, Vadodra, Gujarat and VisvaBharati University, Santiniketan, West Bengal as Centres of Excellence in the field of tribal art & culture and language & literature respectively.

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